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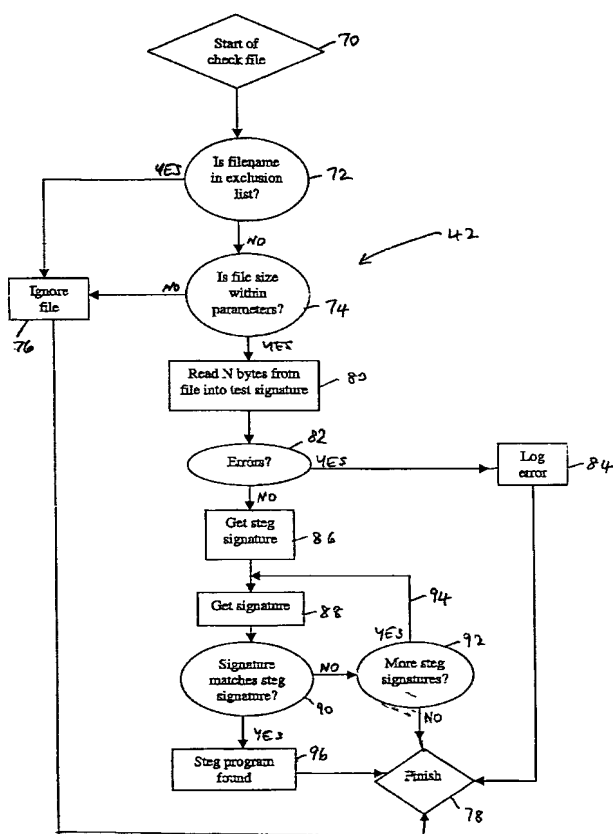
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(54) Title: DETECTION OF ITEMS STORED IN A COMPUTER SYSTEM

(57) Abstract: Detection of items stored in a computer system such as computer code, data or information includes obtaining signatures characteristic of programs of interest such as steganographic programs. A signature is obtained by reading code from a program of interest. The code may consist of the first 500 bytes from a .DDL file taken from the program's core steganographic kernel. This code is then the signature. The computer system compares (90) the signature with files it holds, other than files on a prearranged exclusion list (72). If a signature is found to match data in a file, the filename, the finding of steganography in it, the file location and the matched signature are recorded by the computer system for output (96) to its user.

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